

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 14203 191416Z

45

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 EB-05 USIA-12 SY-04 CIAE-00

DODE-00 NSAE-00 FBIE-00 VO-03 INSE-00 SAJ-01 SCI-01

DRC-01 RSC-01 EURE-00 /055 W
----- 073379

P R 191358Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2656

INFO /USDOC WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 14203

FOR EUR/SOV-KOVNER

USDOC FOR BEWT/BOWDEN

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: CVIS, BEXP, UR

SUBJ: SOVIET COMMERCIAL VISAS

REF: A) MOSCOW 13870 B) MOSCOW 13304, AUGUST 31

1. IN MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISIT OF STATE OF IOWA IOGA TRADE MISSION, COMMERCIAL OFFICE HAS ENCOUNTERED UNETHUSIASTIC RESPONSE FROM KEY SOVIET ORGANIZATION SOYUZSEL'KHOZ-TEKHNKA. DISCUSSIONS WITH THAT ORGANIZATION HAVE CALLED ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT A FIVE-MAN DELEGATION OF SOYUZSEL'KHOZTEKHNKA OFFICIALS WAS SCHEDULED DEPART FOR U.S. SEPTEMBER 13 (VISA APPLICATION REF B) TO VISIT SEVERAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS. VISAS HAVE NOT YET BEEN ISSUED AND COMMERCIAL OFFICE HAS RECEIVED SEVERAL CALLS FRO SOYUZSEL'KHOZTEKHNKA QUESTIONING WHEN GROUP WILL BE ABLE DEPART FOR U.S.

2. COMMENT: THIS CASE CALLS ATTENTION TO FACT THAT IN ITS TRADE PROMOTION WORK AND IN ITS SUPPORT OF U.S. GOVERNMENT SPONSORED ACTIVITIES SUCH AS IOWA IOGA TRADE MISSION, EMBASSY DEPENDS UPON GOOD WILL OF SOVIET ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS SOYUZ-
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 14203 191416Z

SEL'KHOZTEKHNKA. FAILURE TO APPROVE VISAS FOR

SOYUZSEL'KHOZTEKHNIKA GROUP COMES AT BAD TIME FOR
OUR EFFORTS ARRANGE SATISFACTORY PROGRAM FOR
IOWA TRADE MISSION. AS GENERAL RULE, WE ANTICIPATE THAT
LESS RECEPTIVE U.S. POLICY ON PROCESSING SOVIET COMMERCIAL
VISA APPLICATIONS WILL, AMONG CONSEQUENCES NOTED REF A,
COMPLICATE EMBASSY'S EFFORTS ASSIST U.S. COMPANIES IN THEIR
OPERATIONS IN USSR.
DUBS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MOSCOW14203
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740263-0220
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740932/aaaabarb.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) MOSCOW 13870 B) MOSCOW 13304, AUG, UST 31
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <10 MAR 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET COMMERCIAL VISAS
TAGS: CVIS, BEXP, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005